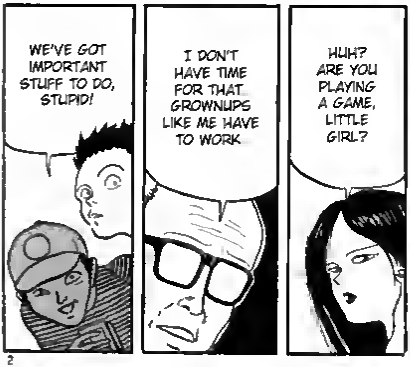
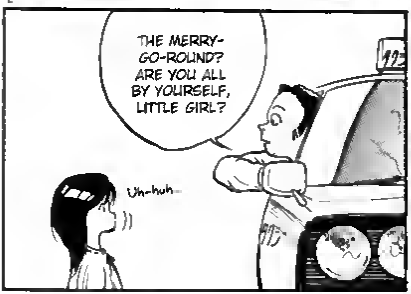
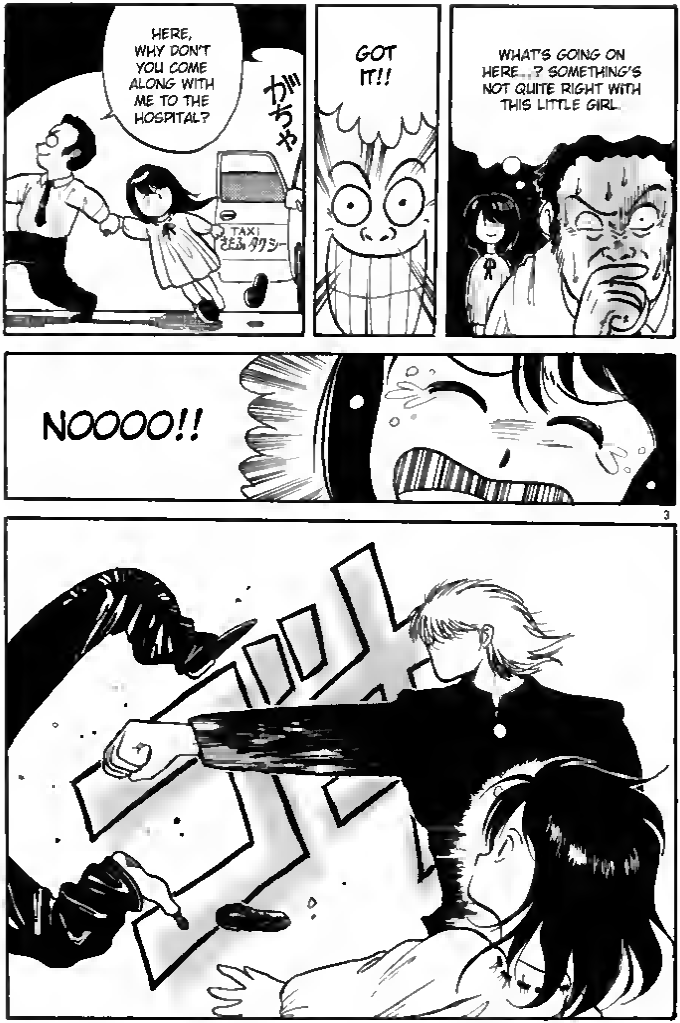
To the Merry-Go-Round!

メリーゴーランドへ！

SLIPPERS' OOKUBO HOSPITAL


WE'VE GOT IMPORTANT STUFF TO DO, STUPID!
I DON'T HAVE TIME FOR THAT. GROWNUPS LIKE ME HAVE TO WORK.
HUH? ARE YOU PLAYING A GAME, LITTLE GIRL?

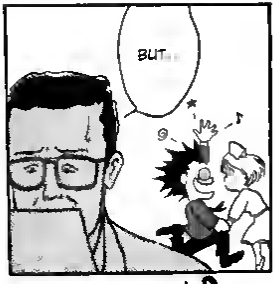



HERE, WHY DON'T YOU COME ALONG WITH ME TO THE HOSPITAL?
がちゃ
TAXI
GOT IT!!
WHAT'S GOING ON HERE...? SOMETHING'S NOT QUITE RIGHT WITH THIS LITTLE GIRL.
NOOOO!!
3

THAT'S ENOUGH PERVY SHIT OUTTA YOU! YOU'RE OLD ENOUGH TO KNOW BETTER!
Y-YO
YO!
ピュウ
YOU LET A PATIENT DISAPPEAR!! AND YOU CALL YOURSELF A GODDAMN DOCTOR?!
OR MAYBE YOU DID SOMETHING TO MAKE MY SISTER RUN AWAY ...?!
YOU DUMB-ASS!!
国見亜矢
病院
大久保病院
SIGN: KUNIMI AYA
SIGN: OO-KUBO HOSPITAL

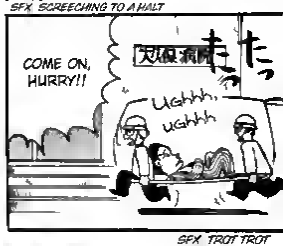
どかーん
YOU ASSHOLES! I'M GONNA BEAT THE SHIT OUTTA EVERY LAST ONE OF YOU!
SFX: BAKI
I AM THE POLICE!!
ドカ ドカ ドカ
HELP! POLICE...! SOMEONE CALL THE POLICE!
Violence...! Mayhem...!
SFX: GLARE
ぎろ
THE POLICE ...?
SFX: STOMP STOMP STOMP
SFX: WHOOSH!
5
YES, IT DEFINITELY CAN HEAL AYA-CHAN
OH... YES, THAT NEW MEDICINE FROM AMERICA
DOC!! THAT THING YOU SAID BEFORE!
WAS THAT REALLY TRUE?!
びし!

THAT WILL WEAR HER OUT A GREAT DEAL, AND IF WE'RE NOT LUCKY, WE MAY NOT BE ABLE TO ADMINISTER THE MEDICINE UNTIL IT'S TOO LATE...
AYA-CHAN IS PUSHING HERSELF BY GOING OUT IN AN AREA SHE DOESN'T KNOW WELL...


BUT...
SFX SIRENS

AYAAAAA...!!

大久保病院
SFX SCREECHING TO A HALT


COME ON, HURRY!!
大久保病院
Ughhh, ughhh
SFX TROT TROT

MORE IMPORTANTLY... WHY D'YOU WANNA SEE A MERRY-GO-ROUND, OF ALL THINGS?

IT LOOKED LIKE HE WAS HURT...
WHAT, IS THAT GETTIN' YA DOWN? JUST HIS BAD LUCK FOR RUNNING INTO ME

WHAT'RE YOU GONNA DO WHEN YOU SEE IT?
I WAS IN THE HOS-PITAL
HUH?
AND I WAS ALWAYS LOOKING AT THIS ONE BOOK
THERE'S A MERRY-GO-ROUND IN IT
ISN'T IT PRETTY? THERE'S HORSES, AND COACHES, AND IT SPINS AROUND ALL SPARKLY!
HUH
I'VE WANTED TO SEE ONE FOR A REALLY LONG TIME
There you go
BUT MY BIG BRO-THER HAS TO WORK
AND THE DOCTORS WON'T TAKE ME OUTSIDE SO I THOUGHT I'D GO ALONE
HOLD ON JUST A SECOND, LITTLE GIRL...
YOU'RE NOT THINKIN' I'M GONNA TAKE YOU THERE?

IF I JUST DITCH YA, I'M GONNA HAVE SOME BAD DREAMS. YOU'RE SUCH A TEENY LITTLE KID... AWH, JEEZ...
SIIIGH
げそおお
Annnd she is.
REALLY? YOU WILL?
ガバ
GUESS I'VE GOTTA TAKE YOU THERE!

SFX: KYAHAHAHAHA!

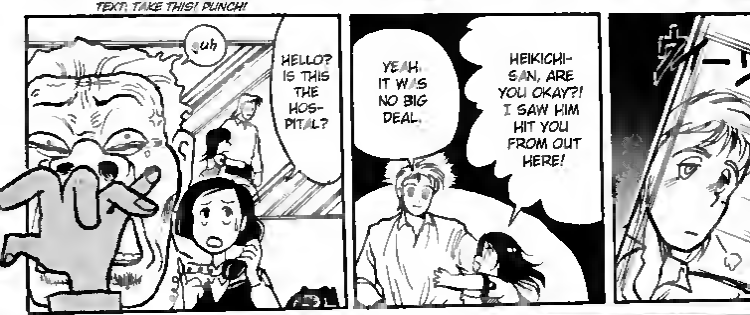
SNAP
AND I'M...
GEHH' YOU... ARE YOU AIGA HEIKICHI FROM KYOUTON HIGH?!
W-was that a snap?
OH, YEAH GUESS YOU CAN'T BE WALKIN' AROUND LIKE THAT
HM?
CHILDONI
CASUAL & FORMAL

MONEY-WISE... I'M NOT DOIN' TOO WELL.
HUH? BUT, HEI-KICHI-SAN, I DON'T HAVE ANY MONEY...
NO TURNING BACK NOW SEIZE THE DAY!
For you and me both
YOU MEAN YOU'LL PAY FOR ME?!
YUP!
CLOTHES FOR PLAYING IN! THIS IS WONDERFUL! NOW I CAN SIT DOWN ANYWHERE I WANT WITHOUT WORRYING ABOUT STAINS!
OH! LOOK, LOOK! I'VE ALWAYS WANTED TO WEAR SOMETHING LIKE THIS!
Welcome to our store...
CHILDCARE
FITTING ROOM
10
COME ON, NOW! SHE'S WAITING FOR YOU TO SAY SOMETHING, SIR!
She is a girl, you know!
Huhhh?!
Come on!
GLANCE

WELL,
THAT IS,
UH,
UM,
I GUESS...
MM...
LOOKS GOOD!
YAY! THANK YOU, HEIKICHI-SAN!
H-HERE'S THE THING: RIGHT NOW, I ONLY HAVE 1000 YEN ON ME. I PROMISE I'LL COME BACK WITH THE REST LATER, SO COULD YOU MAYBE JUST LET US GO FOR NOW? PLEASE?
ウィーン...
OKAY, SO...

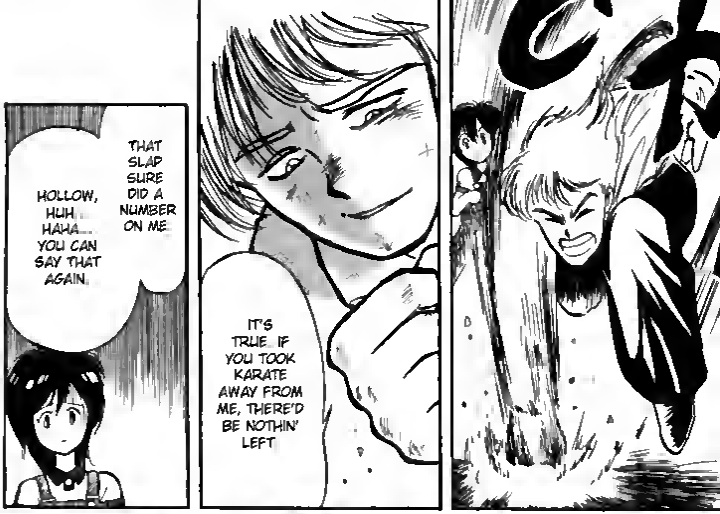
WHAT WAS THAAAT ?! HUUUUH ?!
ウィーン
MA, MANA
OH, MR MANAGER!
-SIGH- IF IT'LL SETTLE THINGS, YOU CAN HIT ME AS MANY TIMES AS YOU WANT. BUT...
SFX: HAHAHAHAHA
THAT AIN'T GONNA CUT IT OUT HERE IN THE REAL WORLD, BUDDY! YOU LOOKIN' TO GET BEAT UP? HUUUUH?!

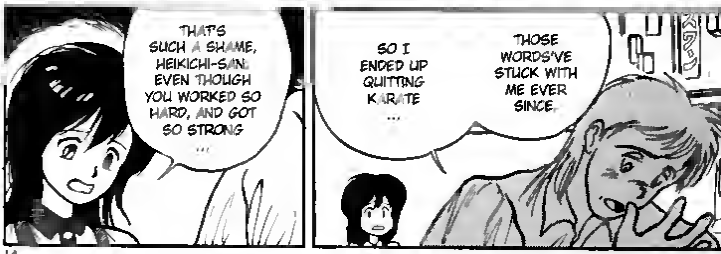
TEXT: TAKE THIS! PUNCH!



HMPH!
WHAT'S WRONG?
HEIKICHI-SAN, YOU'RE REALLY STRONG! IT WAS AMAZING WHAT YOU DID WHEN WE MET. AND WHAT YOU DID JUST NOW WAS REALLY COOL, TOO!

AND AIGA TAKES THE CHAMPIONSHIP! THIS OVER-WHELMING STRENGTH IS WHAT MAKES HIM IRON AIGA!
SFX: CHEERING
NO MATTER HOW STRONG I AM, I STILL CAN'T HOLD ONTO A WOMAN!
Ain't gonna make yourself too popular by stickin' your nose into stuff like this, kid
HOW COME? HOW COME?
YOU GOT DUMPED?
sigh
13
"AIGA-KUNA, YOU'RE HOLLOW! YOU'RE SO BORING!" SHE SAYS TO ME. SHEESH!
はーん
DON'T YOU EVER THINK ABOUT ANYTHING ELSE?!
KARATE! KARATE!! KARATE!!!


THAT SLAP SURE DID A NUMBER ON ME.
HOLLOW, HUH... HAHA... YOU CAN SAY THAT AGAIN.
IT'S TRUE. IF YOU TOOK KARATE AWAY FROM ME, THERE'D BE NOTHIN' LEFT.

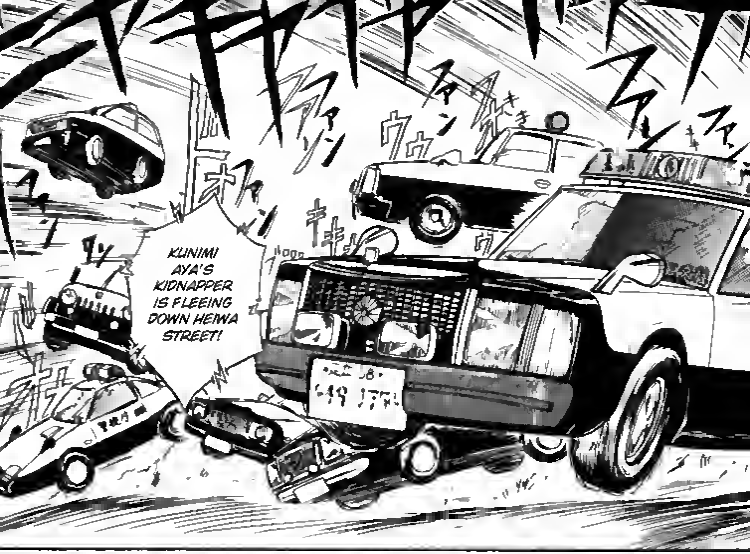

THAT'S SUCH A SHAME, HEIKICHI-SAN. EVEN THOUGH YOU WORKED SO HARD, AND GOT SO STRONG ...
SO I ENDED UP QUITTING KARATE ...
THOSE WORDS'VE STUCK WITH ME EVER SINCE.

AYAAAA!!
THINGS WENT BAD BECAUSE I ONLY WORKED HARD AT ONE THING. THAT'S HOW LIFE IS.
HMMPH

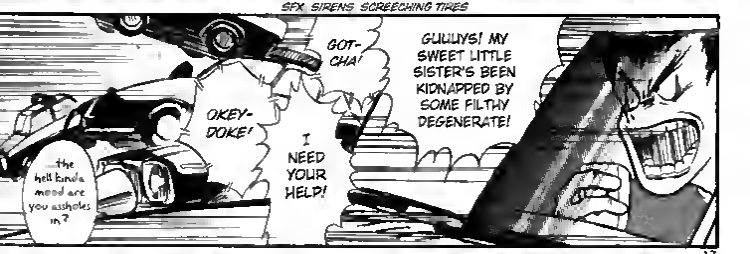
BIG BROTHER
RUN...! LET'S RUN FOR IT!
B-BUT...
I NEED TO SEE THE MERRY-GO-ROUND NOW! NO MATTER WHAT!
PLEASE!
KIDNAPPING SCUM!
YOUUU ...!

ドゴ
ゴロ

I'LL GET HER HOME SOON. SO GIMME A BREAK FOR THIS WHOLE THING, 'KAY?
だっ
ぐるん
ひょい
ゴー
AH!
STOOOP!
ズバ



SFX: SIRENS SCREECHING TIRES


GULLLYS! MY SWEET LITTLE SISTER'S BEEN KIDNAPPED BY SOME FILTHY DEGENERATE!
GOT-CHA!
I NEED YOUR HELP!
OKEY-DOKE!
the hell kinda mood are you assholes in?

17

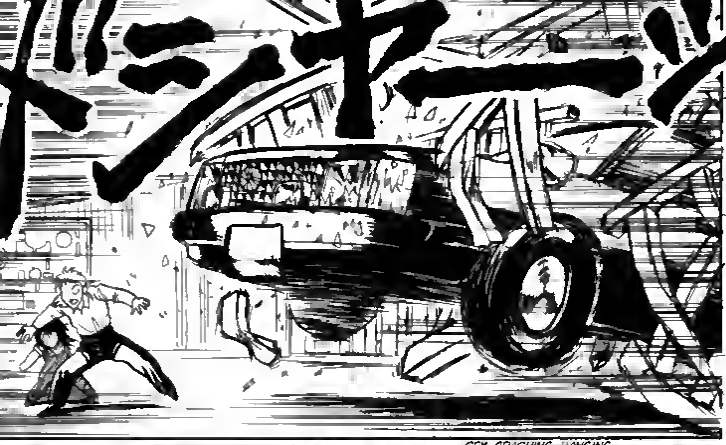
WHEW... SO I'M A KIDNAPPER NOW? MAN, WHAT A CRAPPY JOKE!
DON'T-CHA THINK?
WH-WHAT THE HECK'S WRONG, LITTLE GIRL?!
YOU'RE BURNING UP!
H-HEY, WHAT DO WE DO NOW?! JEEZ, IS THERE A DOCTOR IN THE HOUSE...?!
18
HANG IN THERE! I'M GONNA GET YOU TO A DOCTOR RIGHT AWAY!
PHAN
THAT'S WHAT I'M SICK WITH... I HEARD THE DOCTOR TELLING MY BROTHER...
THAT IT'S...
TOO LATE TO CURE ME...
HUH?
PHAN PHOTE PHOLIA

WHEN I... GO TO HEA-VEN
ALL I'VE EVER DONE IS READ, EVER SINCE I WAS LITTLE...
AND IT REALLY BOTHERED ME SILLY LITTLE AYA NEVER DID ANY-THING BUT READ SHE NEVER DID ANYTHING, GOOD OR BAD
THEY'RE GONNA ASK ME, "WHAT DID YOU DO WHILE YOU WERE ALIVE?"
SO... I THOUGHT I'D GO SEE THE MERRY-GO-ROUND
19
HEIKICHI-SAN... YOU'RE NOT HOLLOW YOU'RE JUST
THE SAME WAY I AM...
AND THEN I'D BE ABLE TO SAY, "YES! I SAW MY FAVORITE THING WITH MY VERY OWN EYES!"
EVEN IF IT WAS JUST THAT ONE THING, AS LONG AS I DID IT WITH ALL MY HEART, GOD WOULD FORGIVE ME.

BEING STRONG ...
AND SEEING THE MERRY-GO-ROUND ...
WE TRIED... WITH ALL OUR HEARTS ...
THAT'S SUCH A NICE THING TO SAY...
YOU DUMBASS! YOU ARE GONNA SEE IT!!
HUH?
THE CRIMINAL PURCHASED SOME ICE AT A CONVENIENCE STORE!
ガ ガ ガ ガ ガ

I AIN'T GETTIN' TAKEN IN HERE!
DO NOT PASS UNDER
STOP RIGHT THERE!
21
WAIT FOR HIM THERE, THEN!
THE CRIMINAL ESCAPED US AT THE RAILROAD CROSSING. HE SEEMS TO BE HEADED FOR THE AMUSEMENT PARK!

22 SFX: SIRENS

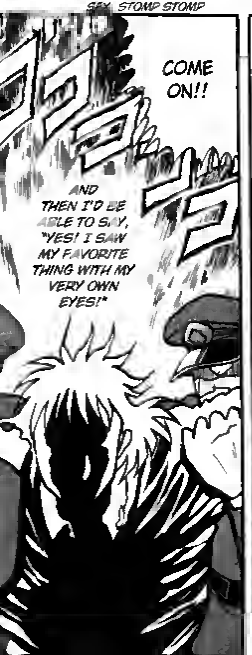


SFX CRUSHING, HANGING

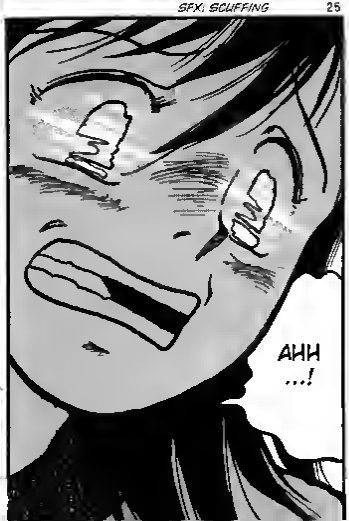
DOCTOR! LET'S GO!
BIG BROTHER, STOP! I'M THE ONE WHO ASKED HIM TO TAKE ME HERE
BIG BROTHER!
YOU'RE SAFE NOW, AYA!
BIG BROTHER, WAIT! PLEASE LET ME LOOK JUST A LITTLE FURTHER IN!
SHAME-LESS BASTARD !!
SCOUN-DREL!!
FOR A REALLY LONG TIME. THAT'S WHY I CAME HERE.
I'VE WANTED TO SEE THIS MERRY-GO-ROUND

IT'S BEAU-TIFUL!
SEE? THE MERRY-GO-ROUND TWINKLES, AND SPINS AROUND

SFX: STOMP STOMP



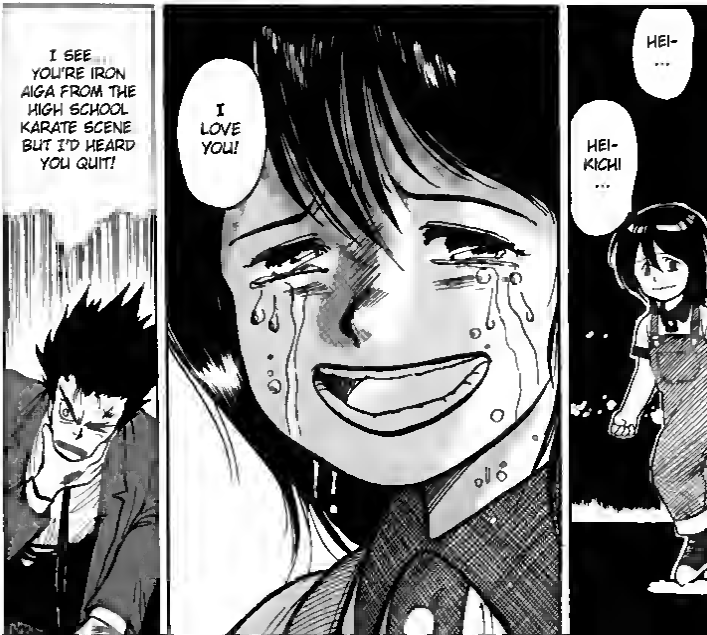
SFX: SCUFFING



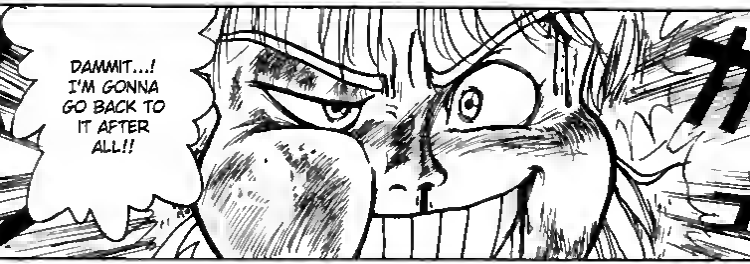
IF YOU WON'T LISTEN WHEN A LITTLE KID IS ASKING FOR SOMETHING WITH ALL THEIR HEART
YOU DON'T DESERVE TO BE A GODDAMN ADULT!!
SFX: ROAR
うおおおお
YOU DUMB-ASS!!

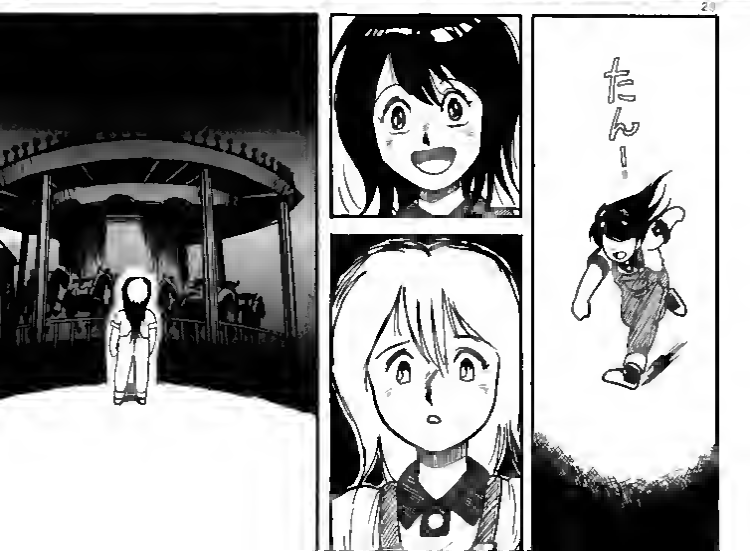
ガガン
ドス
バシ
ゴキ
I'M GONNA SHOW YOU!!
WHATTRE YOU PLANNING, ASSHOLE ?!

GO AND TAKE A GOOD LOOK!! SO YOU CAN TELL GOD EVERY LAST DETAIL!!
AYA! GO!!
'KAY?


I SEE... YOU'RE IRON AIGA FROM THE HIGH SCHOOL KARATE SCENE BUT I'D HEARD YOU QUIT!
I LOVE YOU!
HEI-...
HEI-KICHI...

HEH HEH HEH ...
HEH HEH ...
SO I'M THE SAME AS AYA, HUH?!
SO I GOT SOME SPECIAL TRAINING FROM AYA-CHAN.
HEH... I WAS GETTIN' KINDA RUSTY DURING MY BREAK...

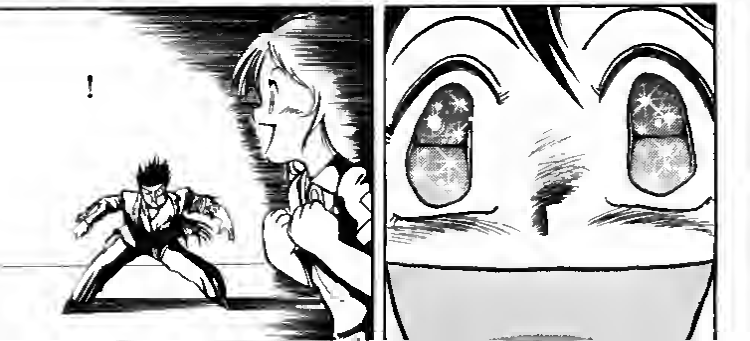

DAMMIT...! I'M GONNA GO BACK TO IT AFTER ALL!!


たん!

SAY SOMETHIN' SELFISH!
DIDN'T I TELL YOU?! IF YOU'RE A LITTLE BRAT, YOU'VE GOTTA BE BRATTY! HEAR THAT?! BRATTY!!
I WANNA! I WANNA SEE IT MOOOVE!
I WANNA SEE IT MOVE!
GOOD JOB!

THERE'S A KID HERE WHO WANTS TO SEE YOU ...
MOVE!
UMMM, LESSEE, THIS THE SWITCH HERE? GET MOVING!

ガラン
ガラン


!

I'VE NEVER SEEN AYA SMILE LIKE THAT BEFORE... DID SHE REALLY WANT TO SEE THE MERRY-GO-ROUND THAT MUCH?
IS SHE SMILING ?!
GOD-DAMMIT ...
WAIT, DAMN IT!!
HOLD ON!!

IS BEAUTI-FUL!
THE MERRY-GO-ROUND
●メリーゴーランドへ！・完●
To The Merry-Go-Round! End

NOTES

This was Fujita's second published work
It appeared in the 45th issue of Weekly Shounen Sunday in 1988

#1000 yen was about 7.93 at the time.
The Childone store chain reappears in "Tora Visits the City",
an early story arc from *Ushio & Tora*